THE BANNER OF BLUE.

The Coat of Many Colors.

By S. R. CROCKETT.

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CHAPTER XV.

FAIRLIE TAKES UP THE TALE. Manuscript written by Fairlie Glendinning, additional to the first MSS of John Glen-

Sorely against my will I write down these things. But one in whose judgment I trust has shown me the need of it, so as best I may I set to my task. Properly I ought to begin with the first coming among us of Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn But that I need not do, for it has been told already by a more practised pen than mine. Nevertheless it dwells in my memory strangely, for I seem to have grown up

from that night. For the rest all that follows came out of Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn's meeting with me that night, following me home, because (as he said afterward) he "thought me innocent and pretty-too good for John"-which eventuated in the love he professed (and I think had) for our Katemean for my sister.

It began, as I say, from that very first Yes, I can see it all now, and wonder how I can have been so blind. But the truth is I was thinking of other thingsselfish things. For the school and my work there were especially interesting about that time.

I could see, however, even that first night that Kate thought a great deal too much about Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn. She disliked him, she said, and that in itself was a sign. Before she went out she whispered to me not to leave her alone.

Yet for all that, she went to the stable door and held the lantern for him while he got his beast ready. I think now that she was afraid of him, and yet never having felt afraid of any one before in her life, she wanted to find out what it meant, and so played with the fire till it burnt her.

Well, when at last they were gone, my father and I stood looking after them. "There gangs a Glendonwyn like to nane i ever set eye upon," he said, "but my father used to tell me tales of one such."

"O, tell me about him, father!" I cried clapping my hands. For anything that concerned the Glendonwyns pleased me that time-because we were really of the same family, that is.

"It would little conduce to edifying!" he said, sternly, "get thee to thy bed, lass, and give God thanks for thy ignorance Where is that besom Kate-already nested I warrant, the slug-a-bed!"

This was my father's ordinary way o showing his love for us, which, indeed we never doubted.

Then, when I went upstairs I began prattling like a foolish child about the brothers while I was letting down my hair. And Kate was cross, saying from her pillow:

"If you are going to speak nonsense take the hairpins out of your mouth first. I hate your Glendonwyns. Jack-master and Jack-man. But if it pleases you to talk, pray do it like a Christian."

Whereat, thinking that perhaps she was tired with her baking and spinning. I went to the bedside to kiss her. When, lo! she would not let me, but pushed me pettishly with her elbow, telling me not worry her. And then again in a minute, when I waxed silent with the rebuff, she burst out again crying that I was unkind to her, that every one was unkind to her, and that she would not speak a word

So I went and kissed her again, whether she would or no, putting my arms about her and brushing her. And in another moment she laughed, and pretended that

she just did it all to tease me. But I knew better-oh, so much better I know exactly why she did it, and how she felt-but there is no good in setting it down here. A man could never understand if one explained for a year. And no woman would need to be told.

"Talk all you want to talk about your great, foolish John," she said. "He has as much romance about him as a plate

of porridge!" Now that provoked me, for I had always liked John Glendonwyn. And of late (why need I hide it?) I had begun to respect him. He was so kind about carry-

ing my books for me and about the Latin So when I retorted on Kate that John was worth a thousand of people who curied their hair and made eyes and were forever paying compliments. Kate sat up in bed and laughed aloud.

"How you can compare them," she said. "I cannot think John is well enough. He is, as I say, like a plate of porridge and has about as much flavor. But Mr. liment is a travelled gentleman. He looks had him one of the old crueaders who carried the Clendonwyn arms on their knightly there to Paiestine and died charging into and disracene upon the plains of well.

it this point I could not help senting hale a entimplicate

On you need not laugh - I am not speak-to myself, she cried "I did not like or all at first and now I hate him absolutely. But yet one cannot bein bal he is very different from the hate, you must not bely eaving hate, you must not asked to have recions you that I know of He dose ortho this arrival; control of the c score there things and maintened proceed action to have preferred to compare and expensive and expensive to all acts and expensive to the process and expensive things which are the first and expensive to the process and expensive to the process and expensive to the first attained to the process and expensive to the process and expensive to the expensive end of the expens ratio that I might be receiving ter-

the same thing for his brother to make

And afterward I found out that John had said just the same things to Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn that I meant to say to Katewhich is a strange thing and shows how the minds of two such friends as we were may run upon the same lines. John did come into the infants' depart-

John did come into the infants' department. I was getting down the maps, which were always rolled up from Friday night to Monday morning. I always liked well enough to roll them up at the week ends, but the days never seemed so long as when I was taking them down on Monday morning.

day morning.

I observed in John's old diary the entry for the 15th of January runs thus:

"Found F. in schoolroom. Helped her uppell mane."

I did speak to my sister that night, and though she was at first inclined to be haughty with me. I found that Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn had been at the Flower-cot three times—each time, curiously enough, choosing (or by accident happening upon) a time when my father was absent.

Then I remembered that on two of these days a message had come from the new English doctor at Kilgour, saying that he wanted some improvements made on his study and greenhouse. And once my father had walked into town with me to

br. Warner made up to us on the way. Dr. Warner made up to us on the way. a tall, dark, spare young man, with eyes too close together, piercing like gimlets, and with a slight cast in them. He stood gazing fixedly at me, trying to make me look at him all the time he was holding my father in talk—which, indeed, it was not difficult to do at any time.

Such a thing would have driven Kate crazy. She was all on pins and needles if any one did a thing like that to her. Only by working all the time could she get rid of the feeling that any one was looking steadily at her.

But with me it is different. I am more of the plate-of-porridge type, who, I dare

of the plate-of-porridge type, who, I dare say, get through the world easier and with much less trouble, both to themselves and to other folks. So I did not mind a

and to other folks. So I did not mind a bit about Dr. Warner's eyes.

He might stare me through and through if he liked. I only joggled my father's arm, called "Good-by, old dear," and trotted me to school with the gimlet eyes following my back hair up the street till I turned the corner. But it was little I cared. I was going to buy some brandy balls for my little favorite Johnny Colstoun. He had met me the night before, somewhat ostentatiously wiping the tears from what ostentatiously wiping the tears from

his eyes.
"All mine bwandy balls is done! Mist
Dzon 'Donin, he gave me lots. I'se offul
sorry he's gone—isn't you, Teatzer?"
Dear little man—so full of feeling!

CHAPTER XVI THE HEARTS OF WOMEN

After John went away I saw Mr. Rupert twice or thrice at my father's house and once when Kate was out, when I arrived sconer than I had been expected. I went round and came upon them standing close together on the wood edge, talking very earnestly.

very earnestly.

I walked straight up to him and asked if Mr. Rupert had come to see father about anything. For if he had, he would find him on the Kilgour road talking to his friend Mr. Warner. For that I had passed them a hundred yards on this side of the brig end.

me go indoors to my own business. But Mr. Rupert, who was always exceedingly po-lite (though he knew that I did not like him), only laughed his rippling laugh (which was like a hand running lightly over the upper keys of a plano) and said that my idea was a good one. He would go and

see my father.

And so he did, and was asked home to discuss all about the Trinity and the docof transsubstantiation, which it appeared he could

trine of transsubstantiation, concerning which it appeared he could give my father many new points, being intimately accusainted with the doctrine and practice of the Roman Church abroad. Or at least so he said.

As he came in through the door he nodded and said laughingly, "You see, I have done your bidding, Miss Fairlie." And that night he bode till nearly midnight, keeping us all hanging on his words, with his adventures and experiences in many lands abroad. Also he did not look nearly so much at Kate as usual, so much so that our based of Will, who was inclined to suspect him, said to me:

"I thought that the fellow was hankering after our Kate, but I see I have mistaken him. He never looks at her more at you, if anything, Fairlie. Mind what you are about."

Alas, poor boy, he little knew how much they were to be talked about before all the properties. The and wondered that she did not answer. I ran upstairs. She wasnot there. I looked about and found her work-a-day dress on a chair, and the hanging cupboard open where she kept her Sunday frook.

Then a wild fear came over me. I held to the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to withstand for the mantelpiece and steadied myself, praying for strength to where she kept her sunday frook.

Then a wild fear c

so much at Kate as usual, so much so that our poor old Will, who was inclined to suspect him, said to me:

"I thought that the fellow was hankering after our Kate, but I see I have mistaken him. He never looks at her thore at you, if anything, Fairlie. Mind what you are about. I will not have my sisters talked about."

Alas, poor boy, he little knew how much

Alas, poor boy, he little knew how much they were to be talked about before all was done, and how little he or any one could do to help it.

Well, then, it was the next day, the 18th of January (I think, for it all happened so close together) that I went to the school as usual, and started my work under the influence of strange depression.

I was cross with the children. They were indeed, more than usually tiresome, and I slapped my dear little Johnny Colstour for nothing at all. He cried promptly, and I was giad that I had some confiscated candy in my desk, with which and a kiss he was comforted. But all the forencon the weight of something I knew not what of forelocding and brooking fear kept deepening and deepening upon me.

of foretooting and broosting fear acpt deepening and deepening upon me.
During those has days I had made great
friends with 1\(\text{trsars bern litherto I}\)
had always thought her distant and haughty
and had been a little afraid of her size
came to see me at the school, though size
has ten times as much to do at home as I
have at the academy without being paid a
penny piece for it.

Meil. Vera t sear had made me promise
to come and isnob with them at least one

to come and lunch with them at legat one day in the week indeed, whenever I kas at the rector's. So I went the day I was day in the week indeed, whethever I was at the restor's So I went the day I was as depressed and as econ as I got upstalia into Vera s room, what she'l do but burst out raying like a great that?

And at this Vera breked quow for a moment and then two head on her shoulder and patiting each shoulder to her shoulder and patiting out should not her shoulder and patiting out should not be shoulder and patiting for thing was that she thought it was because doing about a way that' I was arrived thought it was because doing about a serie she do not know a country but a serie of how the doing along the series and could have about the following about this corpling because a finite bit, bear when it is torribed that I was not that at all wheth the should her that I was not that at all should be a standard to before I thought a finite life about the training that a should he say the should be should be a standard to be a supposed patiting the most and the single of a should be said the single of the should he country to severe a supposed patiting does need to see the said that a should her one a supposed patiting does need to see the said to see a supposed patiting does need to see the said to see a supposed patiting does need to see the said to see a supposed patiting does need to see the said to see a supposed patiting does need to see the said to see a supposed patiting does need to see the said to see a supposed patiting does a sould seem to be seen as a supposed patiting does a sould seem to be seen as a supposed patiting does a sould seem to be seen as a supposed patiting does as a supposed patiting does a sould seem to be seen as a supposed patiting does a sould seem to be seen as a supposed patiting does a sould seem to be seen as a supposed patiting does as a supposed patiting does as supposed patiting does as supposed patiting as a supposed patiting as a

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could have acted otherwise than as I did.
So, instead of taking me down to the dining room, where the doctor at at the table-head like a benevolent judge presiding over the trial and condemnation of legs of mutton and boiled fowls, and a dozen children clung about their eldest sister, clattering plates and taking. Veronica made me lie down on her bed, and locked me in with a book while she flew off to carve and serve "Cæsar's Tenth Legion," as she called her brothers and sisters—I was quite proud that I knew why.

Then after 10 minutes or so, she came back, bright and brisk as if she had been for a sea bath, carrying a dainty little piece of chicken breast on a plate, with creamy potatoes and salad—just what I liked

Then old Vera (she was not old really) sat down on the bedside and petted me, and said pretty things about me. It is and said pretty things about me. It is so nice when women love one another like that, It does not always last, but it is nice at the time. And that day when I needed it Vera was certainly just as nice as she could be, till after awhile my headache went altogether away. So I kissed her and thanked her for being so good to me. me.
"No-no," she said, "it's you who have

And I did not know at the time that she was thinking of what had slipped out about Mr. Rupert, or I should have thought of some way of making her understand without telling about kate. But I did not know, and so things got all sort of tangled up between us somehow.

know, and so things got all sort of tangled up between us somehow.

At any rate, I did feel very much better when I left the manse of Kilgour and walked back to the school. My headache was quite gone, and I felt quieted and at peace with the world. I do not know whether it was the good cry I had had or Veronica's sympathy, or the breast of the chicken—perhaps a little of all three, But, at any rate, I was a different girl.

CHAPTER XVII. CLANDESTINE.

But when I got near the school a new and at the moment, pleasant surprise iwaited me.
I found the children, big and little, cheer ing and shouting, hiving in uproarious throngs about the rector, and immediately

throngs about the rector, and immediately scattering and reuniting as soon as he sent them away. It appeared a perfect miracle to me, who had never seen such conduct since I first went to the academy. For the rector was a man apart to us—teachers and taught—and even that priggish Martin Frazer, the little boy dressed up to the long coat with the sidiately. gish Martin Frazer, the little boy dressed up in the long coat with the ridiculous tails, was cheering along with the others. The poor lad at that time did me the compliment to imagine himself very much in love, and though he hardly ever spoke to me was accustomed to stand apart and glare at those who were less bashful.

But now he came running as hard as

was accustomed to stand apart and glare at those who were less bashful.

But now he came running, as hard as he could, shouting that Mr. Colstoun had got a degree from his own university of Aberdeen for a book he had written—all about Roman history and proving it wasn't history at all, but something made up by the Germans. Martin also told me that we would have to say "Doctor" Colstoun now, just as we did to Dr. Cæsar, but that the rector was another kind of doctor and wore a different hood.

So, of course, there was to be a half holiday at the academy. Indeed, the children were taking it already. It was a warning to me to see how quickly strictest discipline may be overturned. For the whole of the children, without any dismissal or leave given, ran off out of the

whole of the children, without any dismissal or leave given, ran off out of the playground, waving their schoolbags and shouting to tell their parents that the master was going to be a doctor now, and keep the nastiest kind of physic in his desk instead of taws.

I stayed a little, waiting for a chance to speak to Mrs. Colstoun, to kiss her and tell her how happy I was. And at last I got an opportunity. But she only smiled and said:

"Ah, my dear, it won't make the least

and said:

"Ah, my dear, it won't make the least difference. He will just be as tiresome as ever! Men are like that. Only getting hardened to them makes them endurable."

But secretly I could see that she was both pleased and proud—especially when Dr. Cæsar arrived with his fine coat and tall hat on and made a little speech about the honor it was to the academy and to the town. His wife looked across at Mr. Colstoun then with something that glittered very brightly in her eyes.

very brightly in her eyes.

I went slewly back then through the pleasant winter's afternoon. It was still early, and when I got home-lot there was no one to be seen! I called Kate as I came through the gate to tell her the news. she did not answer

iropping the box and thrusting out one and as if to prevent me from taking hold

of her "Where are you going, Kate?" I gasted, breathless with my fright, though, indeed, I knew all too well. Bet even then ny resolution was coming upon me She stood looking a me with wide, shiny year something so bunted and desperate to them that I shivered. Yet there was a in them that I shivered. Yet there was a certain strange pride and pleasure in them as well. I thought she was not going to speak to me, so I cried again, holding her by the arm.

"Kate tell me speak to me! What are you doing dressed like this? Where are you going?"

Sie answered me in one sentence, still faxing me with that fascinated half-un-

fixing me with that famminated, half-un-I am going away to be married to Ruport Glendonwyn Marriest I eried Kate and you never teld met Ob Kate.

'He would not let me, she answered I was coming back to night. No one is to know!"

'And our father?" I said. For he never could a hide wither of us long out of his

uid abide either of ue long nut of his My father is gone to Drumfern on busi-tees, she said. 'He will not be back to night. I have left a note with Will telling him I had gone on to see a friend, and that the ten was in the tempor and everything ready for you and the large. Why could l'estable have get bases without appears bases.

I could have get bases without appears bases.

Act this she could without a touch of her seld thefinant self appearing aimmal like case in a disease, with a difference very obvious for her year accinctions different to very obvious for her year accinctions different the more fractantly I touch my formatition. In more things defin any I have ministed theory desire for any I have more determined than beside of my monorability mayned I have now places with her "know it among that her part is not right for my for her higher for high for my for her higher for high the more places of this more parallel for my to part. I will not have been in your interimental that What is right for high for high for high for high the more parallel for my for high part in the high more parallel for my this properties in a fright sear this parallel have not provide any disconnected making the part in the more parallel for my for high parallel high the more parallel for my this parallel have not provide any disconnected for her my many for high parallel higher high the more parallel higher high parallel higher higher high parallel higher mental, quinte principe in a stormered "cris le maid à continge somme about mills the spirit of the sec point) and minarcon as mills the continue about the spirit stormer principal and stormer princ

breast. "He is all that is noble and good.
And I love him."

"Well," said I, "it is high time for him to show his goodness and nobility now."
My sister is not going to be married without having me for a bridesmaid! So much is very clear to me."

All the while we had been walking toward the old mausoleum, the white walls of

the old mausoleum, the white walls of which gleamed above the trees. Kate stepped aside, turned sharply round the trunk of a tree, which in the course of years had pushed its way through the wall and then mouldered partly away, leaving a narrow passage by which it was easy enough to enter the enclosure. I followed her toward the little chapel by a trodden path, and, lo! there on a stone

a trodden path, and, lo! there on a stone seat in the deep embrasure of the porch sat Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn smoking a cigarette and apparently dreaming.

At our approach, however, he threw down the little bit of lighted paper and sprang to his feet. I think he was just going to clasp Kate in his arms with a rapturous cry when he caught sight of me on the path a step or two behind. His arms dropped promptly to his side, and he turned upon my sister with a look half savage, half inquiring.

"I knew it—I knew it," she cried knitting her hands piteously, "I told Fairlie so. I could not help Fairlie coming. Do not be angry, Rupert! She will go back if you ask her."

She laid her hand on his arm as she spoke. He touched her cheek lightly with his lips,

He touched her cheek lightly with his lips, and then looked over her shoulder at me. and then looked over her shoulder at me.
"Your company does us an unexpected honor, Mademoiselle," he said.
But I would not be put down, least of all by Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn.
"Not more unexpected than the honor you have done me, sir," I said.
"What do you mean?" he asked, a frown cathering between his handsome here.

"What do you mean?" he asked, a frown gathering between his handsome brows.

"I mean the honor of taking away my sister from her family to cheat her with a clandestine marriage," I said boldly. "The honor of meeting her here when you have reason to know that my father and I have been hoodwinked and got rid of."

I think that as I said these words to him Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn blushed for the first and only time in his life. He looked at me and I stared back at him.

"Mademoiselle," he said, "you do me wrong. I will tell you in a word how matters stand with us. I love your sister—I love her as I never thought to love a woman." (She drew nearer to him as he spoke, and he put a protecting arm about her waist.)

But I dare not—cannot marry her openly at present. Yet to marry we are resolved.

at present. Yet to marry we are resolved.
"We will not chance losing one another.
My father wishes me to marry for money.
My careless folly before I had this to live
for" (he patted Kate's cheek) "has crippled

the family estate.

My father has sacrificed a large sum (and it may be more than that) to save me from ruin. I cannot in justice make his efforts vain. In a year or so the need for concealment will pass away-indeed things will be better as soon as my brother is set-tled in his parish. Kate will then be my wife before all the world, as to-day I am joing to make her in law and in fact going to make her in law and in fact."

And as he bent down to kies her she looked up at him with the same great, adoring eyes. I stood in wonderment. In this fascinated love-sick girl I could not see our swift, nervous, free-spoken Kate. But none knows till the thing is tried how love will take any woman when it comes to her once for all.

Of course, when I heard these things I had nothing more to say, saye that I would

Of course, when I heard these things I had nothing more to say, save that I would go with them to be Kate's witness and bridesmaid, as we had always promised each other should be the case.

To my surprise, Mr. Rupert Glendonwyn made no objections. He only said:

"I brought Warner with us to drive. I think you have met him. You will in that case have no objections to a little of his society. It is trus, we need a couple of witnesses."

"Where is the marriage to take place?"

"Where is the marriage to take place?"

I asked, and at the question Mr. Rupert, who was walking in front, with Kate on his arm, half turned his head and smiled quiz-"Trust me." he said, "see how Kate trusts

me! Take a little lesson, I pray you, made-moiselle, from your elder sister."
"Nay," I answered sharply, "that is just the very reason why I cannot trust you at all—not one inch further than I can see "In that case I can only ask mademoiselle

In that case I can only ask mademoisede
to do me the honor to wait and be convinced!" he replied, and in another moment he had passed out of the private
pathway leading from what had evidently
been their lovers' trysting place into the
open roadway.

The brougham was a small one sected The brougham was a small one, seated

Mr. Rupert handed Kate in with the air of a great and courtly gentleman, which he was. Then he turned to offer me the he was. Then he turned to offer me the vacant place by her side.

"Since you are resolved to honor us, mademoiselle?" he said, "voila."

But I had another spirit.

"No, indeed; I thank you," I answered. I am coming as an uninvited guest and I will sit by—by the coachman."

And, suiting the action to the word, I clambered up to the how seed in a more reference.

And, suiting the action to the word, I clambered up to the box seat in a moment.

"So much the better for you, Warner," said Mr. Rupert, laughingly, in French.

He waited a moment beside the carriage, adjusting the driving apron, to keep me warm. And as the afternoon was closing in I drew my cloak up about my throat and brought the cape of it over my head so as almost to conceal my face. Mr. Rupert nodded a bright approval.

aimost to conceal my face. Mr. Rupert nodded a bright approval.

"For a young lady with so marked a dis-like to concealments and stratagems," he said, "I must say that you adapt yourself to them with much natural apiness." To be continued.

GAMES OF THE FILIPINOS. Implements With Which They Are Played Shown in Philadelphia From the Bultimore American

To the collection of "Games of All Nations" deposited in the museums of the University

number of the most popular games played by the people of the Philippines. Judging

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BELONGS TO NOBODY.

Frontier Town That Neither Prussia Nor Belgium Can Call Its Own.

When a person speaks about the smallst States in the world he mentions the Republic of San Marino in the Apennines, the Republic of Andorra in the Pyrenees or the principality of Monaco. There is little district smaller than any of these which is still more curious in its political relations. It cannot be called independent, for two countries have a hand in its affairs, and yet it belongs to nobody and thus occupies an anomalous position.

This little area, containing only about wo square miles, is the ground on which the town of Moresnet stands, a little to the southwest of the important German city of Aix-la-Chapelle.

The Vienna Congress in 1815 established new boundary between the Low countries and Prussia. The Congress was unable to agree as to how a very short part of the boundary should be drawn. A temporary arrangement was finally made by which Moresnet should be called neutral territory. Subsequent events played ducks and drakes with the frontiers established by the Congress of Vienna. But

Moresnet has never been disturbed. It is still neutral territory and is so marked to-day on every good map of Europe.

The town is mentioned in very few school or other geographies. Writers would not know where to class Moresnet if they did

know where to class Moresnet if they did mention it.

The Powers had on their hands a little town which they had excluded from all political allegiance. It was necessary to do something for the poor little place, as they could not agree to give it either to the Low Country (now Belgium) or to Prussia; so they drew up a constitution for Moresnet which they largely borrowed from that of the Andorra Republic in spite of the fact that Andorra is governed by laws that date from the ninth century and suggest feudalism.

laws that date from the ninth century and suggest feudalism.
But though Moresnet is neutral it is not exactly independent. Both Prussia and Belgium are permitted to send what are called commissioners to the town to look after their respective interests there; and its Mayor is appointed alternately by Prussia and Belgium. Veins of zinc ore underlie the town and so the mining industry has given the place prosperity. It contained to the result of the place prosperity is contained to the result of the place prosperity in the place prosperity. the town and so the mining industry has given the place prosperity. It contained only 250 inhabitants when it was declared neutral, but now has over 3,000 citizens. There is another reason why its population

There is another reason why its population has increased.

According to the terms of the agreement the citizens of Moresnet were not liable to military service in the armies of the countries on either side of it; so a considerable number of Belgians and Prussians who did not hanker after army life took up their residence in Moresnet and thus escaped military duty. This little game was stopped in 1874 by the countries interested, which agreed that only descendants of the families that lived in the district when it was pro-

agreed that only descendants of the families that lived in the district when it was proclaimed neutral should be exempt from military duty.

The town is a sort of a Babel, German, French, Flemish, Dutch and several dialects being spoken: the same confusion prevails with regard to the circulating medium. As the town has no money of its own the coins of France, Germany and Belgium circulate freely.

Moresnet is still neutral simply. Neither Prussia nor the country that is now Bel-

Moresnet is still neutral simply. Settled Prussia nor the country that is now Belgium has ever surrendered its alleged rights in it. Germany would be willing enough to relinquish her claims to the territory and let it be annexed to Belgium. She would like to have Belgium take Moresnet on a rectification of the frontier. would like to have Belgium take Moresnet and agree to a rectification of the frontier near the city of Eupen, giving Germany a little more territory. It is inconvenient to have so brisk a manufacturing town as Eupen almost on the frontier, owing to the facilities its position gives for smuggling. There are no indications, however, that the other European States would consert either to a change in the frontier or to sent either to a change in the frontier or to ending the neutrality of Moresnet which was guaranteed by them.

DOMESTICATED WILD GEESE. Strange Fowls That Distinguish the Flocks of Connecticut Farmers.

"In passing through the remote country owns of Connecticut," said a native of one of them, "the stranger will notice now and then in a farmer's flock of prosaic-looking waddling geese one or more different from their companions. These apparently misothers. They are bulkier. The neck feathers have the brownish hue of game birds and there is a queer black, flapping protuberance on the crown of the head that resembles the head of a big long clam.

"These are wild geese, genuine honkers, which have been forced into domestication by clipping their wings. It is a fact that wild geese in their semi-annual migration are apt to get lost if caught in a fog. Then they plunge and dive aimlessly about, at times barely skimming the earth, sweeping against obstructions, often coming down in a heap on the ground, and running about the fields or farm yards like excited domes-tic fowls, screeching frantically and with

great clamor
"At such times they are an easy prey,
and a farmer with a club can knock over
half a dozen of the crazed birds before they get their bearings. Any that are not in-jured too badly are doctored up, their wings are clipped and they are added to the flock

are clipped and they are added to the flock of farm geese to spend the rest of their days in inforced demesticity.

"These domesticated wild geese rarely forget the instincts of their kind, and during the late fall and early spring months dwell in a state of constant excitement and unrest. They honk responses to the honks of wild geese flying over, and their efforts to rise and go along with their free brethren are sometimes frantic.

"Thave known farmers who have humanely recognized this longing in wild geese in

"I have known farmers who have humanely recognized this longing in wild greese in their floris and permitted their wings to grow, so that the birds might rise and join some passing flock, which they have invariably dote.

"A farmer who lived near Gardner's Lake tells of a wild goese of his that he permitted to regain its liberty in this way, and which went sailing off after a floris on its way south. This goese was a gander and it returned to the old farm in less than an hour the most deplorable looking structure and it returned to the old farm in less than an hour the most deplorable looking erenture the farmer ever as a. It was plucked searly have of feathers and its head and not beek seen torn and ideeding. It had evidently met with a lovely reception from the old gameler that held the fisch and had made up its mind that liberty at that price was burdly worth having the if had returned to captivity, and although its wings were left in dipped. It never inabilised on the farm to a green and athough and itself on the farm to a green and athough old age.

\$7.0 \$ solution of the Socio Fountain

From the American Exporter

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*********** ANDIRON TALES

Being the Remarkable Adventures of a Boy With a Lively Imagination.

By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS Copyright, 1902. by John Kendrick Bangs.

CHAPTER IX.

ON THE OSCYCLE-A NARROW ESCAPE. "Well," said the Polar Bear, as the oscycle started on its downward course, "I'm mighty glad we're off, and away from those other creatures on that trolley. They were dishonest lot.

"So am I," came a voice from behind him, that made the Bear jump nervously, for it was none other than the Flamingo.

"So are the rest of us," added a lot of voices in chorus, and Tom, turning to see who beside himself and his companions had got aboard, was hugely amused to see the Kangaroo, the Monkey, the Hippopotamus and all other creatures from the trolley, save only the conductor and motorman, seated there behind, as happy as you

"It doesn't pay to associate with conductors," said the Flamingo. "They don't think of anything but money all the time, and they're awfully rude about it some-Why, I knew a conductor once who refused to change a one-hundreddollar bill for me."

"I don't believe you ever had a one-hundred dollar bill," growled the Hippopotamus.

"I've got one I wouldn't sell for \$1,000." said the Flamingo. 'It's the one I eat with,' he added. "That's not legal tender," said the Polar

"You couldn't change it if it was," sneered the Flamingo. "I could change it in a minute if I wanted o," said the Polar Bear, with a chuckle.
"What with, cash?" demanded the

Flamingo scornfully. "No-with one whack of my paw," said the Bear, shaking his fist menancing y at the Flamingo. "I could change your whole face, for that matter," he added with a frown.

"I was only fooling, Poley, old man, said the Flamingo, a trifle worried. "Of course, you could, but you wouldn't, would "Not unless I had to," replied the Bear;

but, gee, aren't we just wizzing along Are you cold, Tom?" "Yes," said Tom, with a shiver, "just little " "Well, come, sit next to me, and I'll le

you use my furs. I don't need 'em myself. I'm a pretty warm bear, considering where come from." "Sit close, gentlemen," cried the man in charge of the oscycle. "We're coming to a thank-you-marm. Look out! Look out! Hang together. By jove there

Look out! Hang together. By jove there goes the monkey."

And sure enough, off the Monkey flew as the oscycle crossed, the hump at an enormous rate of speed.

"Hi, there, you fellows," the Monkey shrieked as he landed in the soft snow, "wait n minute. Hi, you! Stop! Wait for me!"

"Can't do it." roared the man in charge

"Can't do it," roared the man in charge "Can't do it." roared the man in charge
"Can't stop—going too fast."
"But what am I going to doo—oo-oo?"
shrieked the Monkey, excitedly.
"Get inside of a snowball and roll down.
We'll catch you on the way back," the
Kangaroo yelled, and as they now passed
out of hearing of the Monkey's voice no
one knew how the little creature took the

"I'm glad he's gone," said the Hippo-potamus. "He was a nuisance and I tell you I had a narrow escape. He had his tail wound round my neck a minute before. He might have yanked me off with him" "Yanked you?" said the old Gentleman

the Hippopotamus. "Bosh! The idea of a seven-pound monkey yanking a threeton hippopotamus!"

"What?" roared the man in charge.
"A what? how? much? which?"

"Three-ton," said the old Gentleman from Saturn. "That's what he weighs. I know because he stepped on my toe getting off the troiley."

I know because he stepped on my toe getting off the trolley."

"But it's against the law," cried the man in charge. "We're not allowed to carry more than 1,000 pounds on these machines."

"Humph!" laughed the kangaroo. "It's very, evident, Hippy, that you'll have to go way back and lose some weight."

"I can't help weighing three tons," said the Hippopotamus. "I'm built that way."

"That's all right," said the man in charge, wringing his hands in despair, "but you'll have to get off. If you don't we'll go over the edge." His voice rose to a shriek.

Tom's heart sank and he half rose up. "Sit still," said the two Andirons, grabbing him by the arms. "We're in for it. We've got to take what comes."

"Right you are, "said the Bellows. "Don't you bother. Tom We'll come out all right in the end"."

in the end "But what's the trouble. Mr Man?" asked the Poker. "What's the Hippo's weight got to do with our going over the edge?" "Why can't you see," explained the Man in Charge "His e,000 pounds pushing the machine along from behind there gives us just so much extra speed, and all the brakes in the world won't stop us how we've got going unless he gets. now we've get going onless he gets off.

The announcement caused an immediate panic, and the Polar Bear began to cry like a baby

When I might have stayed home riding around on my owe private toolerg?

"Stop your whimpering," said the Kangaroo "Brace up and be a man." I don't want to be a man." blubbered the Bear. "I'm satisfied to be a poor, miserable little Folor Bear.

"You've get to jump. Hippy," said the Flamingo. "That's all there is about it."

"his replied the Hippopolamuse soil comity." I shall not jump. It would ill compact with my dignity for me to try to jump as if I seek metric a rock. You might as well as an elephant to dance.

we'll just you rell if you don't get off of your rown accord, rearred the Pola-Bear, branchy up, and removing the whole from his rose he should be angelly at the Himsepopolasme.

All right, and the Hippopolasmus with a riceatart state. All right. Has any gentleman trangels a decries along with him has never the hard of the himsepolasment in the appearation. The don't happen to have a family elevator to your problem, the you he hangest to have a family elevator to your problem, the you he hangest to have a family elevator to your problem. There is a property of a major of a supercond the Property of the Fair and a conscious of the state and the state of the s

head first in the snow, but whether he was hurt or not the party never knew, for their speed was now so terrific that he had barely landed before they whizzed past the bottom of the hill and up the other incline. It became clear, too, as they sped on that at such a fearful rate of progress nothing could now keep the oscycle from going over the edge, and the others began to lay plans for safety.

"I'm going to jump for a passing trolley cloud the minute we get to the edge," said the Kangaroo.

"I don't know what I shall do," sobbed the Polar Bear. "If I land on my feet I'll be all right, for they're big and soft, like sofa cushions, but if I land on my head—" That's softer yet, Poley," laughed the

hurt I'll take it out of your hide when we

meet again."

"All right," retorted the Hippopotamus.
"You'll have to get a steam drill and blast

t out. By-by."

The Man from Saturn jumped and landed head first in the snow, but whether he was

"That's softer yet, Poley," laughed the Flamingo, who appeared to be less concerned than anybody "If you land on your head it will be just as if you fell into a great bowl of oatmeal, so you're all right." I'm not afraid for myself," said the Poker. "I can drop any distance without serious injury, being made of iron, and my friends, the Andirons, are equally fortunate. The bellows, too, is comparatively safe. The worst that can happen to him is to have the wind knocked out of him. But—"
"It's Tom we're bothered about," said the Right Andiron, with an anxious glance.

the Right Andiron, with an anxious glance at Lefty. "You see, we invited him to come off here with us, and—" and "Who is he, anyhow?" demanded the Flamingo, glancing at Tom in such a way that the youngster began to feel very uncomfortable.

"I'm a dormouse," said Tom, remembering the agreement.
"Not for this occasion," put in the Poker. "Not for this occasion," put in the Poker,
"This time you're a boy, and we've got
to save you somehow or other, and we'll
do it, Tom, so don't be afraid."

"What kind of a boy is he?" demanded
the Flamingo. "One of these bean-snapping boys that go around sheoting robins
and hooking birds' eggs when they haven's
anything else to do?"

"Not a bit of it," said Righty. "He
never snapped a bean at a bird in all his
life."

"Humph!" said the Flamingo. "I suppose he's been too busy pulling feathers out of peacocks' tails to decorate his room with to be bothering with robins and eggs. "Never did such a thing in all my born days," retorted Tom, indignantly.

"Probably not," sneered the Flamingo.
"And why? Because you were so well satisfied keeping a canary locked up in a cage for your own pleasure that you hadn't any time to chase peacocks."

"I've lived in the family forty years, said the Right Andiron, "and to my knowledge there was never a caged bird in the edge there was never a caged bird in the

"Really?" said the Flamingo, looking at Tom with interest. "Hather a new kind of a boy this. Very few boys have a good record where birds are concerned."
"Tom's no enemy to birds," observed the Bellows. "I know that because I've been in his family longer than he has, and I've watched him."

been in his family longer than he has, and I've watched him."

"Well," said the Flamingo, "if that's the case, maybe I can help him. One good turn deserves another. If he is good to birds I may be able at this time to be good to him. This trouble ahead of us doesn't bother me, because I have wings and can fly"—here the Flamingo flapped his wings proudly—"and I could take Tom on my back and fly anywhere with him, for I am an extremely powerful bird.

"But I want to know one more thing about him before I undertake to save him. We

"But I want to know one more thing about him before I undertake to save him. We birds must stand together, you know, and I'm not going to befriend a foe to my kind under any circumstances. Thomas!"

"Yes, sir," replied Tom, all of a tremble for he hadn't the slightest idea what was coming, and as a truthful boy he knew that whatever the consequence to himself might be he must give the correct answer. might be he must give the corre

"Do you have Sunday breakfast at home?" asked the Flamingo.

"Yes, sir," Tom replied respectfully.

"You have coffee and hominy and toast and fried potatoes and all that?" queried the

"Yee, sir," Tom answered, turning very pale, however, for he was in great dread of what he now saw was likely to come

"And—ah—fruit?" said the Flamingo.
"Oh, yes, plenty of fruit," replied Tom, very nervously.
"And now, sir," said the Flamingo, esverely, and ruffling his feathers like an angry turkey, "now for the main point. Thomas—and mind you, I want a truthful answer. Did you ever eat a broiled—Flamingo for your Sunday morning breakfast?"

Tom breathed a sigh of relief or the Tom breathed a sigh of relief as the Flamingo blurted out the last part of his

"No, sir Never!" he replied.

"No, sir. Never!" he replied.

"Then hurry up and climb up on my shoulders here," the Flamingo cried.

"You're a boy after my own heart. I believe you'd be kind to a stuffed parrot. But hurry—there's the edge right shead of us. Jump—"Tom jumped, and in a moment was sitting astride of the great bird's neck. In his right hand he grasped the claw of Righty, in his left that of Lefty, while these two clutched tightly hold of the Bellows and the Poker respectively.

A moment later the Oscycle reached the edge and dashed wildly over it, the Kangaroo following out his plan of jumping higher still, and, fortunately for himself, catching a passing trolley cloud by which he was borne back to the starting point again.

As for the Polar Bear and the Hippopotamus, they plunged out into space,

potamus, they plunged out into space, while the group comprising our little party from home and the Flamingo sourced graces from home and the ranning some graph fully back to earth again, where the gen-erous-hearted bird deposited them safely on top of the most convenient Aip.

"Thanks very much," said four, as he ciambered down from the bird's neck and stood upon solid ground again.

"He is pleasure to serve a lard defunder."

"It's a pleasure to serve a hird slefender and his Triends," and with this he sourced "The glad he dight's and the if I ever at throised whicher for business breakfast," white a second the Point Do you's to 12 coped that Well I green I than the anything clar

To be concluded Sienniget: Mirthmariret

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